

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/845,787

Examiner

Zeev Kitov

Applicant(s)

KUMAGAI ET AL.

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 01/31/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 - 19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 July 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Examiner acknowledges a submission of the Amendment, Arguments and Request for Correction of Inventorship filed on January 31, 2005. Claim 18 is amended. Amendment and arguments have overcome rejections under 102 (b) and 103(a).

Inventorship

In view of the papers filed on March 14, 2005, it has been found that this nonprovisional application, as filed, through error and without deceptive intent, improperly set forth the inventorship, and accordingly, this application has been corrected in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(a). The inventorship of this application has been changed by adding the name of Naotaka MATSUDA.

The application will be forwarded to the Office of Initial Patent Examination (OIPE) for issuance of a corrected filing receipt, and correction of Office records to reflect the inventorship as corrected.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

An amended independent Claim 1 discloses, inter alia, abnormal condition output means for outputting signals based on abnormal condition detecting signals outputted from said abnormal condition detecting means outside. The closest reference for the Claim is Cameron, which discloses generating a precursory abnormal condition signal

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for controlling the speed of the motor. It also discloses generating a fatal condition signal for stopping motor. However, the detected abnormal and fatal detection signals are directed internally to the motor control. The claim calls for externally outputting the abnormality factor discriminating signals indicative of the abnormality factors contributing to the fatal abnormal condition and the precursory abnormal condition.

The amended independent Claim 18 includes the same limitation.

As per independent Claim 6, in addition to cited above limitation, it further includes a limitation of a system distinguishing between the fatal abnormality and precursory abnormal conditions reacts accordingly and in a case of the fatal abnormal condition outputting the alarm signals irrespective of the output request signal, and in the precursory abnormal condition, outputting the abnormality factor discrimination signals separately in time and upon reception of the request signal. Such limitation combined with other limitations of the claim was not found in the collected prior art of the record.

The independent Claims 10 and 14 include following limitation: "the abnormal condition detecting signals from said abnormal condition detecting means corresponding to semiconductor switching devices connected in bridge connection in an upper arm are transmitted to a lower arm through high voltage level shifters". Such limitation combined with other limitations of the claims was not found in the collected prior art of the record.

Allowability resides, at least in part, in the above-described limitations, which has not been disclosed in the Prior Art in a search.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zeev Kitov whose telephone number is (571) 272-2052. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 – 4:30. If attempts to reach examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571) 272 – 2800, Ext. 36. The fax phone number for organization where this application or proceedings is assigned is (703) 872-9306 for all communications.

Z.K.
04/11/2005

Stephen W. Jackson
4-14-05

STEPHEN W. JACKSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER